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Letter dated 20 March 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to my letter dated 22 February 2007 (see annex) concerning the request of the Government of Lebanon to extend the mandate of the International Independent Investigation Commission, I would be grateful if you would arrange for the text of the enclosure to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 20 March 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to forward herewith a letter from Fuad Siniora, Prime Minister of Lebanon, concerning the extension of the mandate of the International Independent Investigation Commission (see enclosure).

Enclosure

21 February 2007

I refer to Security Council resolution 1686 (2006), by which the Council extended the mandate of the International Independent Investigation Commission into the terrorist bombing of 14 February 2005, until 15 June 2007, and recall in particular the willingness of the Security Council to continue to assist Lebanon in the search for the truth and in holding all those involved in this terrorist attack accountable.

As we near the end of the Commission's mandate on 15 June 2007, and in order to ensure stability and continuity in the investigative process, the Council of Ministers decided, at its meeting of 20 February 2007, to request a further extension of the mandate of the Commission for a period of up to one year from 15 June 2007. The Lebanese Government hopes that Commissioner Serge Brammertz, who is doing a highly professional job at the head of the Commission, will continue in the exercise of his duties during the coming period. Notwithstanding the current difficulties of which you are aware, we also look forward to the earliest ratification by Parliament of the agreement signed between the United Nations and the Lebanese Government for the establishment of the special tribunal for Lebanon.

I look forward to receiving your favourable decision.

(*Signed*) Fuad **Siniora**